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EVA
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
HISAO YONEDA ET AL :
SERIAL NO.: 09/991,642 :
FILED: NOVEMBER 26, 2001 :
FOR: NAPPED-LEATHER LIKE SHEET
MATERIAL AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 23-24 as follows:

Further, the results of Examples 8 and 9 (Reference Examples) shown in Table 1 indicate that the napped leather-like sheet materials of Examples 8 and 9, provided with the silk protein substance and softening agent not only the surface portions thereof but throughout the whole thereof by impregnation, have a good suede-like appearance and a natural leather suede-like velvety, smooth surface touch, flexibility suited for clothing use etc., with appropriately reduced firmness, and, thus, a high quality feel or touch. However, the napped leather-like sheet materials of Examples 8 and 9 show decreases in mechanical characteristics thereof. Further, coats were made using the napped leather-like sheet